



Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As the first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a honeycomb filter for trapping particulate matter contained in dust-containing fluid, the filter comprising a number of through-holes surrounded by partition walls and extending in an axial direction, the partition walls having filterability, predetermined ~~through-holes~~through-holes being plugged at one end, remaining through-holes being plugged at the other end, wherein in a section of the honeycomb filter perpendicular to the axial direction, a heat capacity in a central part of the honeycomb filter is higher than that in a peripheral part of the honeycomb filter.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As the second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a honeycomb filter for trapping particulate matter contained in dust-containing fluid, the filter comprising a number of through-holes surrounded by partition walls and extending in an axial direction, the partition walls having filterability, predetermined ~~through-holes~~through-holes being plugged at one end, remaining through-holes being plugged at the other end, wherein the honeycomb filter comprises an assembly of a plurality of honeycomb segments, and in a section of each honeycomb segment perpendicular to the axial direction, a heat capacity of a central part of the honeycomb filter is higher than that of a peripheral part of the honeycomb filter.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A sectional shape of the section of the honeycomb filter perpendicular to the through-hole in the present invention may be various shapes such as a circle, an ellipse, and a ~~lace~~race track shape.